



REGULATED PLACES OF AMUSEMENT OR ENTERTAINMENT

Overview

In general, a regulated place of amusement or entertainment permit must be obtained from the Indiana Department of Homeland Security before a regulated place of amusement or entertainment can be used for an amusement or entertainment. See Indiana Code § 22-14-3-5. Please note, nonpublic schools and schools operated by a school corporation are exempt from the requirement of obtaining a permit for their amusement or entertainment events, however, they still must be inspected annually to determine compliance with Indiana’s fire safety laws.

What is a regulated place of amusement or entertainment?

A regulated place of amusement or entertainment is defined in IC § 22-12-1-23 and 675 IAC 12-9-2. Generally speaking, these are “places” where a **performance** or **show** is held for consideration or promotional purposes that is designed to amuse or divert an assembly of persons. A “place” is defined in 675 IAC 12-9-2(d) and means:

- (1) a building or room capable of being classified as a Group A Occupancy under the Indiana Building Code;
- (2) a structure capable of being classified as a Group A-5 Occupancy under the Indiana Building Code; or
- (3) a designated outdoor area where temporary or permanent regulated amusement devices are located.

Below is a list of common places that require a permit prior to hosting an amusement or entertainment event:

Indoor or outdoor sports arenas with spectator seating (if outdoor, there must be bleachers, grandstands, or a stadium)	Opera Houses	Movie theaters
Night clubs, bars, or restaurants with a dance floor, stage show, or performer	Dance halls	Comedy Clubs
Indoor event venues with a stage, a dance floor, or that will be used by performers before an audience	Haunted Houses	Karaoke bars
Any location where a regulated amusement device is operated (e.g. fairs, festivals, carnivals, amusement parks)	Theaters	Adult clubs with live entertainment
Outdoor theaters, stadiums, or stages (i.e. a structure classified as an A-5)		

*Please note, that the above listed places must also meet the definition of a “place” in 675 IAC 12-9-2(d) to be regulated.

How to apply for a permit?

To apply for a permit, go to this webpage: <https://publicsafety.dhs.in.gov/> and complete a request for a permit. Before a permit can be issued, you will be required to pay a fee (unless exempt) and your facility must be inspected and found in compliance with all applicable fire safety laws. Permits must be renewed annually.

If you have any questions concerning this document, please contact our office at (317) 232-2222.